ted local demand; dependency on imported components; and large investments that are required making them economically not viable.

**Defence Production by Private Companies**

223. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 262 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th May, 1988 and state the names of the private companies which have already been awarded orders by Government for defence production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): The off-loading of low technology and low value added items from the Ordnance Factories to the Civil Sector is being done in a phased manner. Purchases of these items from trade, are made, as and when required, against indents placed by the users, by different agencies *viz.*, Ordnance Factories, Directorate General of Supplies / Disposals, Services Headquarters and Supplies Wing of the Department of Defence Production and Supplies, depending on the nature and value of items. This is an ongoing process.

Information relating to orders placed by the Supplies Wing of Department of Defence Production & Supplies is furnished in the list attached (*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 7).

**Implementation of Flood Forecasting Network**

224. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to implement the flood forecasting network at Lower Ganga Division under Central Water Commission in addition to Hydrological Observations in vie[illegible] protecting the flood prone areas in West Bengal in the river Ganga, Mahananda, Bhairab, Churni, Jalangi etc.;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal on the subject has been received from West Bengal Government.

**Naval Academy at Ezhimala**

225. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of construction of Naval Academy at Ezhimala in Kerala; and

(b) by when the Academy is expected to be completed and the total expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Construction of the Naval Academy at Ezhimala can commence only after the design is selected, for which an all-India architectural design competition is being conducted.

(b) The total cost of the Project and the period within which it can be completed will emerge only after the Detailed Project Report becomes available.